



United Nations Consultative and NGO Observer Status Guidelines for Selection and Conduct of ASIL Observers

The American Society of International Law (ASIL) holds Special Consultative Status with the United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC). As such, the Society may designate members to attend meetings that are open to non-governmental observers. ASIL also is entitled to designate members to serve as NGO observers at meetings of certain other UN bodies. The extent to which NGO observers may participate in the proceedings depends on the rules and practices of the entity in question.

The following guidelines govern ASIL's practice with respect to such designations:

1. *Eligibility.* Observers must be current ASIL members in good standing at the time of the meeting.
2. *Selection Process.* The President and Executive Director (or their designees) shall select Observers in consultation with the officers of the relevant ASIL Interest Group, as appropriate. ASIL members who wish to be considered as Observers must submit by the stated deadline:
 - a. A current CV;
 - b. A brief (1-2 paragraph) bio; and
 - c. A statement of interest, including a description of the individual's planned activity at the event, how attendance will support the individual's on-going work or research, and how the individual would like to communicate his or her experience to the broader ASIL membership (e.g. through blogging, contributions to ASIL Insights, or the ASIL or relevant Interest Group newsletter).
3. *Conduct of ASIL Observers.* Observers must familiarize themselves with and follow the rules that govern the proceedings of the meetings they attend. Further, the Society relies on the good judgment of its Observers to protect its reputational interests. Members who attend UN meetings under the Society's auspices are encouraged to aid in the deliberations by sharing their knowledge and expertise to the extent permitted by the rules that govern the proceedings. However, as a nonpartisan organization whose members hold a diversity of views, the Society refrains from taking positions on policy matters (except in accordance with the formal process set forth in the ASIL Constitution and Regulations). Observers therefore should refrain from advocating substantive policy positions in the course of their participation in the proceedings, unless such positions have been formally adopted by the Society. If further guidance is necessary in this regard, Observers should contact the Executive Director.
4. *Reports.* Within 30 days following the conclusion of the meeting, Observers shall provide the Society with a brief written report describing the meeting and their role in the proceedings, together with any observations they wish to share regarding the substance and potential outcomes of the meeting. ASIL reserves the right to publish or make use, in whole or in part, of the reports submitted by Observers, subject to the author's consent.